

# Support Programme for Municipal Development (PROMUD)

**Municipalities fulfil their tasks for sustainable local development better**

## The context

The Cameroonian Government defines decentralisation as a key element for the promotion of democracy and the fight against poverty. Decentralization has indeed been anchored in the Cameroonian Constitution since 1996 and is included in its Strategy Document for Growth and Employment (GESP).

However, the implementation of the reforms contained in the decentralization strategy drawn up in 2015 is moving forward slowly. Thus, even though many competencies have been transferred to municipalities, the centralized administrative culture continues to influence municipalities' room for manoeuvre.

For example, key decisions about planning and financing local development are still taken in the ministries at the central level, without an adequate participation of the councils, although many competencies have been transferred to them, especially in the areas of basic services and infrastructure.

Furthermore, municipalities do have not the necessary financial resources, even as they have officially been allocated their own sources of income. As a consequence, they are not sufficiently fulfilling their tasks for sustainable local development.

In order to address this challenge and move forward decisively in its dynamic of development of local potentialities through decentralized local authorities, the Government of Cameroon has launched, the **Support Program for Municipal Development (PROMUD – French acronym is PRADEC)**, in partnership with the Federal Republic of Germany.

The programme operates under the authority of the Ministry of Decentralisation and Local Development (MINDEVEL) and develops its support around four fields of intervention:

## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Project name	Support Programme for Municipal Development (PROMUD)
Commissioned by	Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Implementing agency	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Lead executing Agency	Ministry of Decentralisation and Local Development (MINDEVEL)
Partners	Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications (MINPOSTEL), Decentralised local authorities
Duration	2017-2020

1. Improving the conditions for local revenue management through taxpayers' databases;
2. Improving the collaboration between municipalities and State institutions in charge of implementing decentralisation at the national, regional and divisional level;
3. Improving the capacities of municipalities to maintain, control and manage public infrastructure;
4. Strengthening the capacities of Multipurpose Telecommunication Centers to provide demand-driven digital services.

The programme is implemented in the North and the South-West Regions as pilot Regions, with its impact expected on the whole national territory.



**Right :**  
Access to potable water and infrastructure maintenance: fixing a well

**Left:**  
Local markets, to promote local economy



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Thank you for informing you!

## Our services

In collaboration with MINDDEVEL, PROMUD focuses on strengthening consultation mechanisms in pilot Regions, using specific approaches to pool successful experiences in counseling through national networks.

The programme supports municipalities in promoting local development, as well as decentralized structures, so that they can exercise their role and functions more efficiently. It also supports civil society actors in their missions to promote development and citizen involvement in local decision-making, particularly through increased use of new information and communication technologies (ICT). To this end, PROMUD conducts activities aiming at:

- Consolidating the municipality as an institution and key player in local and communal development;
- Supporting State bodies in charge of implementing decentralisation at the national, regional, and divisional level in the exercise of their supervisory responsibilities;
- Supporting Deconcentrated State Services in their collaboration with the municipalities;
- Improving the quality of collaboration between all actors at the local level;
- Improving municipal revenues;
- Establishing professional networks conducive to the sharing of good practice;
- Improving access to basic social services;

- Strengthening elected officials and municipal officials (eg mayors, municipal councilors, general secretaries, municipal receivers ...) on their roles, tasks and responsibilities;
- Supporting CSOs through capacity building in ICT use, advocacy, resource mobilization etc.;
- Strengthening civil society participation in local governance for independent monitoring of public policies and participation in decision-making bodies;
- Promoting information and experience-sharing both between municipalities and between municipal and regional authorities;
- Producing didactic materials to perpetuate the acquired knowledge.

## Our approach

The program relies on national and international experts. They provide direct advice to all partners. Some of them are directly placed within the partner structures as technical assistants. In addition to the skills of these experts, PROMUD relies on Service Providers (PS) at the national and / or regional level.

The programme uses a systemic approach that strengthens networking and facilitates coordination between actors at different levels and categories. The multi-level approach also makes it possible to scale-up the results obtained at the municipal level to the regional and national levels, and vice versa.

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